This plant is not only found in boggy meadows, but by the sides of brooks in rocky and mountainous situations, from Canada to Carolina. Its flowering time is from May to July.

The *Veratrum album* or *White Hellebore*, a well known medicinal plant found in most countries of Europe, has a very close resemblance to the American species. It is, however, a smoother plant, and differs somewhat in its flowers, bractes and stalks.

The genus Veratrum, on account of the diversity of its flowers, was placed by Linnæus in his class *Polygamia* and order *Monœcia*. Those more recent botanists, who omit this class, have transferred the genus to *Hexandria trigynia*.

The generic character of *Veratrum* consists in a *six-parted corolla without calyx. Stamens inserted in the receptacle. Capsules three, many seeded. A part of the flowers barren.* The species *viride* has a *downy panicle with the partial bractes longer than their pedicels. Segments of the corolla thickened on the inside at base.*

The root of this plant is thick and fleshy, its upper portion tunicated, its lower half solid and sending forth a multitude of large whitish radicles. The stem is from three to five feet high, roundish, solid, striated and pubescent. Throughout the greater part of its length it is closely invested with the sheathing bases of the leaves. The lower leaves are large, from half a foot to a foot long, oval, acuminate, pubescent, strongly plaited and nerved; the lower part of their edges meeting round the stem. The upper leaves become gradually narrower and the uppermost, which perform the office of bractes, are linear-lanceolate. The flowers are numerous and distributed in compound racemes axillary from the upper leaves, and terminal; the whole forming a sort of panicle. Peduncles roundish, downy. Bractes boat-shaped, acuminate, downy. The pedicel of each flower is many times shorter than its bracte. Calyx none. Corolla divided into six green, oval, acute, nerved segments, of which the alternate ones are longest. All the segments are contracted at base into a sort of claw with a thickened or cartilaginous edge. Stamens six with recurved filaments and roundish, two-lobed anthers. Germs three, cohering, with acute recurved styles as long as the stamens. A part of the flowers are barren and have only the rudiments of styles, so that the plant is strictly polygamous. The seed vessel consists of three capsules united together, separating at top and opening on their inner side. Seeds flat imbricated.